

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2-3 have been cancelled. Claim 1 remains pending. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application, as amended, are requested.

The Examiner disapproved Applicants' request to add Figures 7 and 8 to the application. Applicant requests reconsideration.

In the specification, the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 26, states:

It will be appreciated that the length of the roller chain 10 comprises more than two longitudinal portions of uniform lengths, and the zigzag pattern of the elastic rollers 18 in one longitudinal chain portion is opposite in phase to the zigzag pattern of the elastic rollers 18 in the adjacent longitudinal chain portion.

The language of original claim 3 reads as follows:

... the roller chain comprises two or more longitudinal chain portions of uniform lengths, the zigzag pattern of the elastic rollers in one of the longitudinal chain portions being opposite in phase to the zigzag portion of the elastic rollers in the adjacent chain portion.

Figures 7 and 8, submitted by Applicants in the last response, are nothing more than Figure 1 and a depiction of the language quoted from the specification and claim 3. It takes no imagination on a comparison of Figure 1 and the quoted language to visualize what is shown in Figures 7 and 8. There is no new matter added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the disapproval of the proposed entry of Figures 7 and 8. Likewise, Applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, of claim 3.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious on consideration of Japanese Document 7-83290. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Hence, this rejection is moot.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination are requested. Allowance of claim 1 and the approval of Figures 7 and 8 for entry in the application is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Date: 8-25-03

Curtis B. Hamre

Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165  
CBH:PSTpmc

